

Maryland Crop Quick Facts

2003 Crop

An unusually wet spring followed by a humid and rain soaked summer delayed harvest of hay, tobacco, vegetables, and the development of corn and soybeans. As of September 2, 2003, 69 percent of the corn was in the dough stage compared with 89 percent last year and 82 percent for the five-year average. Thirty-five percent of the corn was in the dent stage compared with 69 percent last year and 58 percent for the five-year average. As of September 2, 2003, 52 percent of soybeans were setting pods compared with 83 percent last year and the five-year average.

Corn development has been good during the month of August. Corn fields received adequate rainfall and sunlight. Many corn fields are drying down and beginning to mature. Harvested acres of corn is expected to be 430,000 acres. Corn yields are forecast at 133 bushels per acre, 57 bushels per acre higher than last year. Corn condition as of September 2, 2003 was rated 21 percent excellent, 38 percent good, 26 percent fair, 15 percent poor and 6 percent very poor.

Many soybean fields were planted late this year due to wet soils and the delay in small grain harvest. Soybeans are currently setting pods and will begin to turn color in the next few weeks. Soybean planted acres are expected to be 460,000 acres, 30,000 less than last year. Soybean

harvested acres is expected to be 450,000 acres with an expected yield of 33 bushels per acre. Soybean condition as of September 4, 2003 was rated 15 percent excellent, 38 percent good, 26 percent fair, 15 percent poor, and 6 percent very poor.

Tobacco yield is expected to be similar to last year at 1,400 pounds. Tobacco condition as of September 2, 2003 was rated 24 percent excellent, 40 percent good, 25 percent fair, 8 percent poor, and 3 percent very poor.

Small grain harvest is now complete. Barley yield was 61 bushels per acre, 21 bushels per acre less than last year. Winter wheat yield was 36 bushels per acre, 30 bushels per acre less than last year. Late maturity, excess moisture, disease and insects all contributed to yield losses for small grains.

Hay harvest is behind normal this year. Third cutting of hay for other and alfalfa hay is currently underway. As of September 2, 2003, 74 percent of alfalfa hay has finished the third cutting compared with 84 percent last year and 87 percent for the five-year average. Thirty-five percent of other hay has finished the third cutting compared with 59 percent last year and 64 percent for the five-year average. Some fields are ready for a fourth cutting.

Corn

- Largest harvested acreage since 1996.
- Highest yield since 2001.

Record Highs and Lows

Item	Unit	Record Highs	Record Lows
Harvested	1,000 acres	726 (1891)	328 (1957)
Yield	Bushels	155 (2000)	14.5 (1930)
Production	1,000 Bushels	70,400 (1985)	6,554 (1930)

Acreage, Yield, Production and Price

Year	Planted	Harvested	Yield	Production	Price Per Unit
			bu./acr	bushels	dols./bu.
1993	500,000	420,000	78	32,760,000	2.90
1994	460,000	390,000	118	46,020,000	2.45
1995	450,000	400,000	105	42,000,000	3.65
1996	530,000	465,000	139	64,635,000	3.05
1997	510,000	410,000	90	36,900,000	2.98
1998	470,000	400,000	109	43,600,000	2.33
1999	470,000	360,000	93	33,480,000	2.36
2000	480,000	405,000	155	62,775,000	2.01
2001	490,000	410,000	136	55,760,000	2.18
2002	510,000	425,000	76	32,300,000	2.85
2003	510,000	430,000	133	57,190,000	----

Soybeans

- Smallest planted and harvested acreage since 1987.
- Highest yield since 2001.

Record Highs and Low

Item	Unit	Record Highs	Record Lows
Harvested	1,000 acres	570 (1993)	3 (1928)
Yield	Bushels	43 (2000)	6.5 (1930)
Production	1,000 Bushels	22,145 (2000)	32 (1930)

Acreage, Yield, Production and Price

Year	Planted	Harvested	Yield	Production	Price Per Unit
			bu./acr	bushels	dols./bu.
1993	580,000	570,000	26.0	14,820,000	6.50
1994	560,000	550,000	35.5	19,525,000	5.40
1995	550,000	510,000	23.0	11,730,000	6.95
1996	490,000	480,000	37.0	17,760,000	7.15
1997	530,000	520,000	30.0	15,600,000	6.90
1998	470,000	460,000	31.0	14,260,000	5.21
1999	490,000	480,000	32.0	15,360,000	4.66
2000	520,000	515,000	43.0	22,145,000	4.50
2001	520,000	515,000	39.0	20,085,000	4.20
2002	490,000	470,000	23.0	10,810,000	5.75
2003	460,000	450,000	33.0	14,850,000	----

Winter Wheat

- Lowest yield since 1977.
- Lowest production since 1983.

Record Highs and Lows

Item	Unit	Record Highs	Record Lows
Harvested	1,000 acres	680 (1903)	80 (1978)
Yield	Bushels	68 (1997)	11 (1866)
Production	1,000 Bushels	14,400 (1995)	2,960 (1978)

Acreage, Yield, Production and Price

Year	Planted	Harvested	Yield	Production	Price Per Unit
			<i>bu./acr</i>	<i>bushels</i>	<i>dols./bu.</i>
1993	210,000	200,000	54	10,800,000	2.90
1994	230,000	220,000	55	12,100,000	3.10
1995	230,000	225,000	64	14,400,000	4.15
1996	235,000	227,000	52	11,804,000	4.31
1997	215,000	210,000	68	14,280,000	3.15
1998	225,000	215,000	50	10,750,000	2.37
1999	215,000	200,000	60	12,000,000	2.25
2000	220,000	200,000	63	12,600,000	2.15
2001	190,000	175,000	63	11,025,000	2.45
2002	195,000	180,000	66	11,880,000	3.15
2003	165,000	150,000	36	5,400,000	----

Barley

- Lowest harvested acreage since 1938.
- Lowest production since 1952.

Record Highs and Lows

Item	Unit	Record Highs	Record Lows
Harvested	1,000 acres	96 (1985)	1 (1889)
Yield	Bushels	82 (2002)	19 (1890)
Production	1,000 Bushels	5,510 (1984)	19 (1890)

Acreage, Yield, Production and Price

Year	Planted	Harvested	Yield	Production	Price Per Unit
			<i>bu./acr</i>	<i>bushels</i>	<i>dols./bu.</i>
1993	75,000	69,000	69	4,761,000	1.70
1994	65,000	60,000	70	4,200,000	1.80
1995	65,000	62,000	81	5,022,000	1.80
1996	55,000	49,000	61	2,989,000	3.12
1997	55,000	50,000	80	4,000,000	2.05
1998	60,000	54,000	64	3,456,000	1.30
1999	55,000	50,000	80	4,000,000	1.35
2000	55,000	50,000	82	4,100,000	1.35
2001	55,000	51,000	75	3,825,000	1.30
2002	45,000	41,000	82	3,362,000	1.30
2003	45,000	40,000	61	2,440,000	----

Hay

- Harvested acreage expected to be lower than last year by 5,000 acres.

Record Highs and Lows

Item	Unit	Record Highs	Record Lows
Harvested	1,000 acres	465 (1943)	200 (1998)
Yield	tons	3.34 (1997)	0.70 (1911)
Production	1,000 tons	910 (1958)	250 (1911)

Acreage, Yield, Production and Price

Year	Harvested	Yield	Production	Price Per Unit
		<i>tons/acre</i>	<i>tons</i>	<i>dols./ton</i>
1993	210,000	2.62	550,000	106
1994	200,000	3.34	668,000	103
1995	205,000	2.69	552,000	106
1996	220,000	3.17	698,000	119
1997	200,000	2.51	501,000	142
1998	200,000	3.16	632,000	119
1999	210,000	2.51	528,000	127
2000	235,000	3.03	711,000	124
2001	225,000	2.32	522,000	134
2002	220,000	2.31	508,000	143
2003	215,000	-----	-----	-----

Tobacco

- Lowest harvested acres on record.
- Fourth consecutive yearly acreage decline.

Record Highs and Lows

Item	Unit	Record Highs	Record Lows
Harvested	1,000 acres	53 (1951)	1.5 (2003)
Yield	Pounds	1,500 (1997)	480 (1900)
Production	1,000 Pounds	46,250 (1946)	2380 (2002)

Acreage, Yield, Production and Price

Year	Harvested	Yield	Production	Price Per Unit
		<i>bu./acre</i>	<i>bushels</i>	<i>dols./bu.</i>
1993	9,500	1,290	12,255,000	1.51
1994	8,500	1,500	12,750,000	1.64
1995	8,500	1,350	11,475,000	1.67
1996	8,000	1,250	10,000,000	1.92
1997	8,000	1,500	12,000,000	1.72
1998	6,500	1,400	9,100,000	1.63
1999	6,500	1,400	9,100,000	1.66
2000	5,700	1,450	8,265,000	1.69
2001	2,200	1,500	3,300,000	1.68
2002	1,700	1,400	2,380,000	1.48
2003	1,500	1,400	2,100,000	-----